

WEEKLY BULLETIN

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SACRAMENTO, 631 J STREET, 2-4711

SAN FRANCISCO, 603 PHELAN BLDG., 760 MARKET ST., UN 8700

LOS ANGELES, STATE OFFICE BLDG., 217 W. FIRST ST., MA 1271

VOL. XXII, No. 22

JUNE 19, 1943

GUY P. JONES
Editor

DEATHS BY RACES IN 1942

Out of 85,241 deaths registered in California in 1942, 77,166 were in members of the white race and 7,875 were in members of other races. These were distributed as follows:

Mexican	4,202	Indian	325
Negro	1,955	Filipino	234
Chinese	539	Other races	111
Japanese	509		

There is a wide variation in the principal causes of death among these races but total deaths are probably in proportion to the total population of the various races in California, although it is possible that the death rate is considerably higher among some of them, notably, the Mexican.

TUBERCULOSIS

Tuberculosis is one of the leading causes of death among races other than white in California. Out of 77,166 deaths among whites last year, 2,572 or 3.3 per cent of the total were members of this race. On the other hand, 776 out of a total of 4,202, or 18.5 per cent, were Mexicans. Out of 234 deaths in Filipinos, 63, or 27.14 per cent, were victims of this disease. The percentages of tuberculosis deaths to the total numbers of deaths for each race in California last year were as follows:

Filipino	27.1	Indian	13.2
Mexican	18.5	Negro	10.9
Japanese	16.7	White	3.3
Chinese	14.9		

Among Filipinos, Mexican and Japanese, tuberculosis was the chief cause of death last year. In Chinese and Negroes it was second leading cause of death. Among Indians it was third principal cause of death and in members of the white race it ranked ninth.

There is considerable significance in the fact that out of a total of 3,842 tuberculosis deaths registered among the total population in California, last year, 1,270, or one-third, were in races other than white.

THE DISEASES OF THE CIRCULATORY SYSTEM

Deaths from diseases of the circulatory system undoubtedly indicate to a marked degree the preponderance of individuals in the older age groups among members of the white race. The percentages of deaths from the circulatory system for each race, last year, are as follows:

White	36.1	Japanese	16.7
Negro	26.0	Mexican	13.2
Chinese	25.6	Filipino	9.8
Indian	20.0		

These percentages, without doubt, indicate the large number of older age groups in those races that have been established in California for long periods of time. A study of the principal causes of death in the different races reveals that the first ten leading causes were responsible for 91.5 per cent of total deaths in the white population, while the first ten leading causes of death aggregated 84.5 per cent of all deaths among members of the Mexican race. Following are the percentages of deaths from the ten leading causes in seven races within the State:

White	91.5	Negro	88.6
Chinese	90.0	Indian	86.5
Filipino	89.3	Mexican	84.5
Japanese	88.8		

The ten leading causes of death in actual numbers for the seven races, as recorded in California last year, are as follows:

WHITE	
Circulatory system	27,885
Cancer	9,980
Diseases of the nervous system	7,005
External causes	6,202
Nephritis	4,199
Diseases of the digestive system	4,124
Pneumonia	3,164
General diseases	3,155
Tuberculosis	2,572
Early infancy	2,380

70,666

MEXICAN	
Tuberculosis	776
Circulatory system	654
External causes	457
Pneumonia	388
Early infancy	333
Cancer	273
Diseases of the digestive system	191
Diseases of the nervous system	173
Diarrhea and enteritis under 2	158
General diseases	149

3,552

NEGRO	
Circulatory system	512
Tuberculosis	214
External causes	198
Cancer	188
Diseases of the nervous system	149
Venereal disease	118
Nephritis	94
Pneumonia	92
General diseases	86
Early infancy	82

1,733

CHINESE	
Circulatory system	138
Tuberculosis	80
Cancer	62
Diseases of the digestive system	39
Diseases of the nervous system	38
External causes	35
Nephritis	30
Pneumonia	24
Venereal disease	21
General diseases	18

485

JAPANESE	
Tuberculosis	85
Cancer	85
Circulatory system	66
Diseases of the nervous system	63
External causes	33
Diseases of the digestive system	28
Pneumonia	27
Early infancy	25
Nephritis	24
Suicide	16

452

INDIAN	
Circulatory system	65
External causes	48
Tuberculosis	43
Pneumonia	33
Diseases of the nervous system	23
Early infancy	18
Cancer	16
Nephritis	14
Diseases of the digestive system	12
Venereal disease	9

281

FILIPINO	
Tuberculosis	63
External causes	30
Circulatory system	23
Pneumonia	17
Early infancy	17
Diseases of the digestive system	16
Cancer	13
Venereal disease	11
Diseases of the nervous system	11
Nephritis	8

209

CALIFORNIA MORTALITY IN 1942

There were 85,041 deaths registered in California last year. By age groups they may be segregated as follows:

Under one year	5,382
1 to 4 years	1,078
5 to 9 years	93
10 to 14 years	389
15 to 19 years	921
20 to 24 years	1,624
25 to 29 years	1,628
30 to 34 years	1,866
35 to 39 years	2,404
40 to 44 years	3,349
45 to 49 years	4,467
50 to 54 years	5,884
55 to 59 years	7,075
60 to 64 years	8,267
65 to 69 years	9,270
70 to 74 years	9,792
75 to 79 years	8,603
80 to 84 years	7,120
85 to 89 years	3,814
90 to 94 years	1,257
95 to 99 years	288
100 to 104 years	48
105 and over	22

The major causes of deaths in California last year may be classified as follows:

Diseases of the heart and circulatory system	29,380
Cancer	10,626
Diseases of the nervous system	7,471
External causes	7,014
Diseases of the digestive system	4,499
Nephritis	4,486
Tuberculosis, all forms	3,842
Pneumonia	3,749
Other general diseases	3,437
Diseases of early infancy	2,869
Suicide	1,503
Venereal diseases	1,124
Non-venereal genito urinary diseases	984
Congenital malformations	890
Other diseases of the respiratory system	778
Diarrhea and enteritis under 2 years	381
Puerperal state	312
Other epidemic diseases	284
Influenza	281
Senility	246
Whooping cough	110
Diarrhea and enteritis over 2 years	106
Measles	102
Dysentery	87
Diphtheria	84
Meningococcic meningitis	70
Diseases of the skin and cellular tissue	70
Diseases of bones and organs of locomotion	50
Lethargic encephalitis	49
Acute poliomyelitis	26

Typhoid fever -----	19
Malaria -----	3
Smallpox -----	1

Deaths in the larger cities of the State in 1942 were as follows:

	Deaths	1940 Population
Los Angeles -----	18,634	1,504,277
San Francisco -----	9,255	634,536
Oakland -----	3,932	302,163
San Diego -----	2,951	203,341
Long Beach -----	1,978	164,271
Sacramento -----	1,883	105,958
Berkeley -----	890	85,547
Glendale -----	1,195	82,582
Pasadena -----	1,081	81,864
San Jose -----	620	68,457
Fresno -----	1,013	60,685

Number of deaths registered in other cities of the State in 1942 are as follows:

Riverside -----	602
Stockton -----	593
San Mateo -----	491
Modesto -----	479
Alameda -----	407
Santa Barbara -----	378
Inglewood -----	352
Santa Ana -----	323
Vallejo -----	313
Eureka -----	303
Richmond -----	302
Pomona -----	291
Alhambra -----	283
Bakersfield -----	276
Santa Cruz -----	265
San Luis Obispo -----	233
National City -----	231
Martinez -----	230
Orange -----	222
Whittier -----	215
Huntington Park -----	201
Napa -----	200

Deaths in none of these cities have been segregated according to place of residence. It should be remembered, in considering these data, that many deaths that occurred within these cities were in individuals whose place of residence was in the surrounding area. The figures do not represent the comparative death rates for the various cities, although the large number of deaths registered in some of these municipalities reflect the sudden growth of population that has come as the result of the war industries that have drawn employees from all over the United States. It is impossible to determine death rates in proportion to population for the reason that no reliable information relative to population of various cities and counties in California is available at the present time. It is impossible to even make a reliable guess as to the number of inhabitants in at least a dozen communities of the State, as the sudden increase in population has been overwhelming.

LEGISLATION FOR HARD OF HEARING

Governor Warren has signed two bills that have a direct bearing upon the prevention of hearing impairments in children and the promotion of education in children who suffer such impairments. The State Department of Education is enabled to provide consultant services in connection with the education of hard of hearing children in areas where such services are not available. They shall be provided through an expert in the fields of organization and planning for the education of the hard of hearing. Under the other measure the State Department of Public Health is instructed to seek out children with impairment in hearing, especially in primary and grammar grades in all schools, and in its conferences and diagnostic clinics it shall employ trained otologists for such diagnostic investigation.

Through these new laws the State Department of Public Health will be able to coordinate measurements of hearing losses discovered in clinics and children health conferences with the general findings of the physical examinations that are made in such clinics and conferences. An opportunity will be provided for the possible determination of causative factors in the production of the hearing impairments. Through the services of trained otologists the family physician will be provided with an outline of essential treatment to relieve or prevent further impairment.

The State Department of Education will be able to give expert assistance in the education of children whose hearing impairment necessitates special services. Such an expert may be able to assist in the provision of lip reading, the provision of hearing aids, and may be able to advise relative to special lighting and seating arrangements that will enable the hard of hearing children to receive special instructions to overcome their physical handicap. These measures were supported by 30 chapters of the American Association for the Hard of Hearing located in 30 communities of California. The California Committee for Hard of Hearing Children, engaged in the promotion of a State conservation of hearing program, conducted the campaign for the enactment of these laws. Mr. George E. Coleman of Santa Barbara is chairman of this committee, Mr. Conrad G. Selvig of Santa Monica is secretary-treasurer and Dr. Louis Guggenheim of Los Angeles is chairman of the counseling committee.

For centuries tomatoes were considered poisonous. One day Michele Corne, a brave painter of the War of 1812, ate one and lived. Today tomato pulp is fed to three weeks' old babies.

EPIDEMIC DIARRHEA OF THE NEWBORN

In May, 44 cases of epidemic diarrhea of the newborn were reported in California. Many of them had occurred earlier in the year. The incidence of this disease during 1943, however, has been quite high. Overcrowding of hospitals and difficulty in maintaining nursing personnel are undoubtedly important factors in producing the higher prevalence of the disease. Control measures have been instituted.

CRIPPLED CHILDREN'S CLINICS

Clinics for crippled children were held last month in Marysville, Santa Ana, Lone Pine, Bishop and Manzanar in Inyo County; cardiac clinics were held in Pittsburg, Oakland, Richmond and Fairfield. During the month 34 physically handicapped children were accepted for care and 33 examinations were authorized.

MORBIDITY***Complete Reports for Certain Diseases Recorded for Week Ending June 12, 1943 (Civilian Cases)****Chickenpox**

1117 cases from the following counties: Alameda 241, Contra Costa 65, El Dorado 2, Fresno 17, Imperial 15, Inyo 4, Kern 9, Los Angeles 307, Madera 5, Marin 17, Merced 2, Monterey 2, Orange 34, Placer 10, Riverside 8, Sacramento 26, San Bernardino 13, San Diego 94, San Francisco 135, San Joaquin 14, San Mateo 15, Santa Barbara 12, Santa Clara 22, Santa Cruz 1, Solano 21, Sonoma 7, Tehama 1, Tulare 5, Ventura 2, Yolo 5, Yuba 6.

German Measles

1204 cases from the following counties: Alameda 192, Contra Costa 58, Fresno 70, Humboldt 23, Imperial 12, Kern 3, Kings 1, Los Angeles 466, Marin 4, Monterey 5, Orange 22, Riverside 4, Sacramento 27, San Bernardino 41, San Diego 55, San Francisco 68, San Joaquin 34, San Luis Obispo 3, San Mateo 8, Santa Barbara 12, Santa Clara 39, Santa Cruz 2, Solano 6, Sonoma 32, Tehama 5, Tulare 2, Ventura 10.

Measles

1392 cases from the following counties: Alameda 102, Butte 2, Colusa 2, Contra Costa 411, Del Norte 1, Fresno 8, Humboldt 1, Imperial 11, Kern 12, Kings 1, Los Angeles 387, Madera 12, Marin 5, Merced 3, Monterey 13, Orange 4, Placer 16, Riverside 3, Sacramento 8, San Bernardino 13, San Diego 48, San Francisco 69, San Joaquin 5, San Luis Obispo 1, San Mateo 39, Santa Barbara 2, Santa Clara 20, Solano 177, Sonoma 14, Ventura 1, Yolo 1.

Mumps

991 cases from the following counties: Alameda 159, Contra Costa 24, Fresno 15, Humboldt 15, Imperial 1, Kern 5, Kings 10, Los Angeles 217, Madera 12, Marin 2, Merced 45, Napa 7, Orange 56, Placer 3, Sacramento 18, San Bernardino 40, San Diego 85, San Francisco 84, San Joaquin 53, San Mateo 11, Santa Barbara 5, Santa Clara 16, Santa Cruz 1, Solano 88, Sonoma 6, Tehama 1, Tulare 2, Ventura 1, Yolo 9.

Scarlet Fever

163 cases from the following counties: Alameda 18, Contra Costa 4, Fresno 8, Kings 9, Los Angeles 53, Madera 1, Marin 1, Merced 1, Orange 1, Riverside 1, Sacramento 2, San Bernardino 5, San Diego 4, San Francisco 11, San Joaquin 5, San Mateo 1, Santa Clara 33, Solano 4, Sonoma 1.

Whooping Cough

555 cases from the following counties: Alameda 56, Contra Costa 39, El Dorado 1, Fresno 18, Humboldt 1, Imperial 30, Kern 4, Los Angeles 143, Madera 5, Marin 7, Monterey 12, Napa 5, Orange 5, Placer 42, Riverside 2, Sacramento 12, San Bernardino 5, San Diego 49, San Francisco 49, San Joaquin 25, San Mateo 8, Santa Clara 4, Solano 18, Sonoma 3, Tulare 1, Tuolumne 2, Yolo 9.

Diphtheria

19 cases from the following counties: Fresno 1, Imperial 1, Los Angeles 10, San Bernardino 2, San Diego 1, San Francisco 2, San Joaquin 1, Santa Clara 1.

Epilepsy

38 cases from the following counties: Alameda 2, Los Angeles 25, Sacramento 3, San Francisco 6, Sonoma 2.

Coccidiodal Granuloma

One case from Tulare County.

Diarrhea of Newborn (Epidemic)

10 cases from San Francisco.

Dysentery (Bacillary)

7 cases from the following counties: Los Angeles 5, Monterey 1, Sonoma 1.

Food Poisoning

50 cases from the following counties: Contra Costa 1, Inyo 48, San Luis Obispo 1.

Influenza (Epidemic)

34 cases reported in the State.

Jaundice (Infectious)

2 cases from Los Angeles County.

Malaria

3 cases from the following counties: Alameda 1, Contra Costa 1, Los Angeles 1.

Meningitis (Meningococcic)

18 cases from the following counties: Alameda 4, Butte 1, Contra Costa 5, Los Angeles 5, Riverside 1, Sacramento 1, San Diego 1.

Paratyphoid Fever

2 cases from San Francisco.

Pneumonia (Infectious)

102 cases reported in the State.

Poliomyelitis (Acute Anterior)

28 cases from the following counties: Alameda 2, Contra Costa 3, Fresno 1, Los Angeles 14, Orange 4, San Bernardino 2, Santa Clara 1, Solano 1.

Rabies (Human)

One case from San Diego County.

Rabies (Animal)

19 cases from the following counties: Fresno 1, Los Angeles 15, Monterey 1, San Diego 1, Tulare 1.

Rheumatic Fever (Acute)

12 cases from the following counties: Alameda 2, Contra Costa 5, Los Angeles 1, San Francisco 2, Solano 2.

Tetanus

5 cases from the following counties: Los Angeles 4, Ventura 1.

Typhoid Fever

3 cases from the following counties: Fresno 1, Los Angeles 1, San Francisco 1.

Typhus Fever

One case from San Diego County.

Undulant Fever

5 cases from the following counties: Fresno 1, Kings 1, Los Angeles 1, Orange 2.

Gonorrhea

336 cases reported in the State.

Syphilis

834 cases reported in the State.

*Data regarding the other reportable diseases not listed herein may be obtained upon request.

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